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**Subject:** Southern Louisiana Flooding; August 19, 2016 - Morning Update  
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**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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**Southern Louisiana Flooding**  
**August 19, 2016**  
**Morning Update**

An estimated 40,000 homes were impacted by the recent flood. Based on previous incidents, this could generate 4 million pounds of HHW, 120,000 white goods, and 160,000 E-goods. 59 drinking water systems have boil water notices impacting more than 321,000 people. Many state employees were also impacted by the flooding reducing the State's capacity to respond to the incident. Of the 600 LDEQ employees (statewide), over 100 employees were impacted. LDEQ's office is expected to reopen Monday.

- LDNR has reported that no fuel waivers have been requested. LDNR is coordinating with local industry to determine if and when a request will be needed. Region 6 will continue to coordinate with LDNR.
- EPA has two OSCs on scene assisting LDEQ. They are providing technical assistance for the incident and augmenting the State's response capability in responding to hazmat incidents caused by the flooding. LDEQ has attempted to contact 270 of 650 WWTP. 117 were determined to be operational, 6 partially operational and the rest were not able to be contacted.
- EPA responded to an oil spill from an oil distribution facility located in Denham Springs that has reportedly impacted nearby residents. EPA's initial assessment included meeting with residents and the Responsible Party (Lard Oil). A more complete assessment will be initiated this morning to determine the extent of the spill and the residential homes impacted. Currently, it appears to be a localized incident. Additional EPA contractors will be on scene to assist EPA today. The oversight of this oil spill response will be funded by

the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund (OSLTF).

- Two OSCs are working with FEMA to advise on hazmat related incidents and to develop plans for the segregation/recycling/or disposal of HHW, white goods and E-goods consistent with previously successful incidents. OSCs are deployed to FEMA offices (RRCC, Denton, TX and JFO, Baton Rouge). All LA Flood activities are expected to be transitioned from the RRCC to the JFO this weekend. The JFO is being set up with FEMA and US Corp of Engineer (USACE) teams beginning to assess debris today.
- A PIO has been identified for the incident and has reached out to LDEQ to provide any needed assistance.
- LDHH is conducting assessments of drinking water systems. Within the declared parishes there are 59 drinking water systems under boil water notices impacting more than 321,000 of people.
- The Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry has contacted all pesticide producers and dealers in the area. They report that establishments made preparations prior to the flooding and they are secure.
- REOC has been activated for the incident. R6 has identified field ready personnel and equipment to respond to the incident.

Current desk statement:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 6 is monitoring the impacts of the flooding rains in Louisiana, and we are maintaining close communication with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, FEMA and the U.S. Coast Guard. EPA is ready to support and respond to the growing needs in Louisiana. FEMA has requested an EPA representative to assist in the Joint Field Office in Baton Rouge, and we have deployed a Federal On-Scene Coordinator to fill the advisory role for any waste such as white goods, Household Hazardous Waste or hazardous materials. Two additional OSCs are currently on site at LDEQ's office to assist in the flood response (emergency response and assessment) with an additional OSC deployed to the FEMA RRCC in Denton, TX. Additional personnel and resource are on standby.

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